



South Florida Water Management District

PRO EVR 20

July 22, 1999

James C. Duck
Chief, Planning Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Dear Mr. Duck:

Subject: Comments on Scoping for 8.5 Square Mile Area SEIS

We wish to thank the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) for their efforts in conducting the recent public scoping meeting for the 8.5 Square Mile Area (SMA) Environmental Impact Statement. The South Florida Water Management District (District) staff will propose an alternative mitigation plan for your consideration during the technical alternatives formulation process.

Pursuant to District Governing Board action on June 23, 1999 (see enclosed), we request ACE evaluate a full array of locally preferred options for the mitigation of any additional flooding of the 8.5 square mile area (SMA) related to the implementation of the Modified Water Delivery Project as authorized by Congress. As discussed at the June 23 board meeting, it is additionally requested that the ACE present the findings of these evaluations to the Governing Board at the earliest convenience following the completion of the required analysis.

If you have any questions, please call me or have your staff contact our project manager, Dewey Worth, at 561-682-2711.

Sincerely,

Dewey Worth for

Trevor Campbell
Deputy Executive Director

c: Dick Ring, Everglades National Park
Steve Forsythe, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Dewey Worth, SFWMD

Governing Board:
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